#### REED SMITH LLP

Sara A. Begley, Esq. (PA ID: 49120) Anne E. Rollins, Esq. (PA ID: 314484) Three Logan Square 1717 Arch Street, Suite 3100 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel. (215) 851-8100 Fax. (215) 851-1420 Attorneys for Defendant

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

KRIS	CL	ARKE,
		*********

CIVIL ACTION NO. \_\_\_\_

Plaintiff,

v.

WALGREEN COMPANY,

DEFENDANT'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Defendant.

To: The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania 601 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Adam D. Meshkov, Esq. Meshkov & Breslin 830 Lehigh Street Easton, PA 18042 Attorney for Plaintiff

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441 and 1446, Defendant Walgreen Co.¹ ("Defendant" or "Walgreens"), by and through its counsel, Reed Smith LLP, hereby removes this action from the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, Civil Division - Law, in which it is pending, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In support of this Notice of Removal, Walgreens states as follows:

Defendant Walgreen Co. was improperly named as "Walgreen Company" in Plaintiff's Complaint.

#### **Background**

- 1. Plaintiff Kris Clarke ("Plaintiff") commenced this action on or about July 29, 2015 by filing a Complaint against Walgreens in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, captioned *Kris Clarke v. Walgreen Company*, Docket No. CV2015-6633. A true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Civil Cover Sheet, Notice to Defend, and Complaint are attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
  - 2. Walgreens was served with the Complaint on or after September 16, 2015.

# All Procedural Prerequisites to Removal Have Been Met

- 3. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), true and correct copies of all process, pleadings, orders and other papers on file with the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas are attached as Exhibit A.
- 4. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), a true and correct copy of this Notice of Removal will also be promptly filed with the Prothonotary of the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas, as an attachment to Walgreens Notice of Filing of Notice of Removal. A true copy of this written notice, without attachments, is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.
- 5. This Notice of Removal is timely, being filed within thirty (30) days of the first day on which any Defendant was properly served with any pleading (here, the Complaint) as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).
- 6. Walgreens is the sole Defendant in this action. Accordingly, all Defendants consent to and join in this removal.
- 7. The Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County is located within the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Therefore, venue in this Court is proper because the action is being removed to the "district court of the United States for the district and division embracing the place where such action is pending." See 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a).

8. No proceedings have occurred before the Court of Common Pleas other than Plaintiff's filing of the Complaint and Plaintiff's service of the Complaint upon Walgreens.

### **Diversity of Citizenship**

- 9. Complete diversity of citizenship exists in this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.
- 10. Plaintiff alleges that he is a resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. See Pl.'s Compl. ¶ 1.
- 11. Walgreens is a foreign corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois, with a principal place of business located in Deerfield, Illinois. See Pl.'s Compl. ¶ 2.
- 12. Thus, Walgreens is a citizen of Illinois for diversity jurisdiction purposes. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1) ("[A] corporation shall be deemed to be a citizen of every State and foreign state by which it has been incorporated and of the State or foreign state where it has its principal place of business . . . .").
  - 13. There are no other parties to this lawsuit.

# Amount in Controversy

- 14. Plaintiff's Complaint asserts one count for "Wrongful Termination/Constructive Discharge." Pl.'s Compl. ¶¶ 41-43.
- 15. Plaintiff's Complaint alleges that he seeks damages "in excess of \$50,000.00 in the form of lost income (back pay) and lost employment benefits, future income (front pay) and future lost employment benefits, all such actual damages incurred, punitive damages, attorney and witness fees and costs, and all such compensable legal and equitable relief determined to be appropriate." Pl.'s Compl. ¶ 43 et seq. (emphasis added).
- 16. Although Plaintiff's Complaint does not allege a specific amount of damages (and instead seeks damages "in excess of \$50,000.00"), the amount in controversy in this case

exceeds the jurisdictional minimum of \$75,000 required for diversity jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).

- 17. Even if Plaintiff were only seeking \$50,000 in damages (which he is not), Pennsylvania practice "permits recovery of damages in excess" of this amount. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1146(c)(2)(A)(ii). Thus, "removal of the action is proper . . . if the district court finds, by the preponderance of the evidence, that the amount in controversy exceeds" \$75,000. *Id.* § 1446(c)(2)(B).<sup>2</sup>
- 18. Here, Walgreens can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.<sup>3</sup>
- 19. Plaintiff's employment was terminated on or about January 7, 2014, approximately 19 months ago. Pl.'s Compl. ¶ 40.
- 20. Plaintiff's 2011, 2012, and 2013 Form W-2s issued by Walgreens show that Plaintiff was paid \$54,442.71, \$53,580.32, and \$44,933.65 per year, respectively. See Pl.'s 2011 2013 Form W-2s, attached as **Exhibit C**.
- 21. Even using the lowest of these numbers, Plaintiff's possible back pay damages for the 19-month period since his termination are currently approximately \$78,635.64. This amount

See also Judon v. Travelers Prop. Cas. Co. of Am., 773 F.3d 495, 503 n.7 (3d Cir. 2014) (explaining that the Federal Courts Jurisdiction and Venue Clarification Act of 2011 "provides that for a civil action with jurisdiction conferred by 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) (diversity jurisdiction), 'removal of the action is proper on the basis of an amount in controversy asserted under subparagraph (A) if the district court finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the amount in controversy exceeds the amount specified in section 1332(a)") (emphasis in original); Valley v. State Farm Fire & Cas. Co., 504 F. Supp. 2d 1, 4-5 (E.D. Pa. 2006) (in a case that predates the enactment of the Federal Courts Jurisdiction and Venue Clarification Act of 2011, reviewing the uncertainty in the case law surrounding the "legal certainty test" and explaining: "Under Red Cab, a case must be dismissed or remanded if it appears to a legal certainty that the plaintiff cannot recover more than the jurisdictional amount of \$75,000. The rule does not require the removing defendant to prove to a legal certainty the plaintiff can recover \$75,000—a substantially different standard.") (emphasis in original).

Walgreens does not concede, and in fact denies, that Plaintiff is legally entitled to *any* amount of damages. This, however, has no bearing on this Court's jurisdiction. At the jurisdictional stage, the Court should not consider "the legal sufficiency of [plaintiff's] claims or whether the legal theory advanced by the plaintiff[] is probably unsound." *Suber v. Chrysler Corp.*, 104 F.3d 578, 583 (3d Cir. 1997). Further, "the court retains jurisdiction even if the plaintiff cannot ultimately prove all of the counts of the complaint or does not actually recover damages in excess of [\$75,000]." *Id*.

alone could satisfy the amount in controversy, and it will only increase as Plaintiff's possible

back pay damages continue to accrue during the pendency of this litigation.

22. Plaintiff further seeks front pay damages, presumably at a rate of or near \$50,000

per year.

23. Plaintiff further seeks damages for lost past and future employment benefits.

24. Plaintiff further seeks punitive damages. Punitive damages are properly included

in the calculation of the amount in controversy. Hayfield v. Home Depot U.S.A., Inc., 168 F.

Supp. 2d 436, 457 (E.D. Pa. 2001).

25. Between Plaintiff's requests for back and front pay, past and future benefits, and

punitive damages, the preponderance of the evidence shows that the amount in controversy

exceeds \$75,000.

26. For all of the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff's Complaint against Walgreens falls

within the diversity jurisdiction of the United States District Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.

27. This removal is made without waiver of any defenses.

28. In the event that the Plaintiff seeks to remand this case, or the Court considers

remand sua sponte, Walgreens respectfully requests the opportunity to submit such additional

argument or evidence in support of removal.

WHEREFORE, Defendant, Walgreen Co., hereby gives notice that this action is

removed from the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County to the United States District

Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH LLP

Sara A. Begley

Anne E. Rollins

Attorneys for Defendant

Walgreen Co.

Dated: October 6, 2015

#### REED SMITH LLP

Sara A. Begley, Esq. (PA ID: 49120) Anne E. Rollins, Esq. (PA ID: 314484) Three Logan Square 1717 Arch Street, Suite 3100 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel. (215) 851-8100 Fax. (215) 851-1420 Attorneys for Defendant

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

KRIS CLARKE, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO
riamun,	
<b>v.</b>	DECLARATION OF COUNSEL IN SUPPORT
WALGREEN COMPANY,	OF DEFENDANT'S NOTICE OF REMOVAL
Defendant.	

- I, Sara A. Begley, Esquire, being of full age, hereby certify and declare as follows:
- I am an attorney-at-law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a Partner in 1. the law firm of Reed Smith LLP, counsel for Defendant Walgreen Co. in the above-captioned matter.
- I have read Defendant's Notice of Removal, and the contents thereof are true to 2. the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746, I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment. ana a Besley

a A. Begley

Dated: October 6, 2015

#### REED SMITH LLP

Sara A. Begley, Esq. (PA ID: 49120) Anne E. Rollins, Esq. (PA ID: 314484) Three Logan Square 1717 Arch Street, Suite 3100 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel. (215) 851-8100 Fax. (215) 851-1420 Attorneys for Defendant

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

KRIS CLARKE,	

Plaintiff,

v.

WALGREEN COMPANY,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. \_\_\_\_

DEFENDANT'S CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

I hereby certify that, on October 6, 2015, I caused a copy of Defendant's Notice of Removal (and all corresponding pleadings, including the Declaration of Counsel in support thereof) to be served *via* first class mail upon counsel of record for Plaintiff, addressed as follows:

Adam D. Meshkov, Esq. Meshkov & Breslin 830 Lehigh Street Easton, PA 18042 Attorney for Plaintiff

Sara A. Begley

# EXHIBIT A

•	, vi				
We C	Supreme Count of Renns Cours of Common Plea Chair Cover Sheet	_ County	Far Prothonatury Use  Docket No:	IUS3	Trage Stage
	The information collected on this for supplement or replace the filing and s  Commencement of Action:  Complaint  Transfer from Another Jurisdiction	ervice of pleadings of	court administration or other papers as req Petition Declaration of Taking	purposes. This f quired by law or ru	form does not les of court.
E T T	Lead Plaintiff's Name:  Kris Clarke  Are money damages requested?		Lead Defendant's Name  Local Defendant's Name  Dollar Amount Received (check one)	en Comp quested: Dwith	nin arbitration limits
Ó N		]Yes ☑ No	Is this an MDJ	TAppeal?	Yes 🛛 No
A	Name of Plaintiff/Appellant's Attorne  Check here if you	y: <u>Adam</u> 1 have no attorney (	D. Meshk (are a Self-Represen	ol/ ted [Pro Se] Litig	gant)
	Nature of the Case: Place an "X" to the left of the ONE case category that most accurately describes your PRIMARY CASE. If you are making more than one type of claim, check the one that you consider most important.				
SEQTE 0Z	TORT (do not include Mass Tort)  Intentional Malicious Prosecution Motor Vehicle Nuisance Premises Liability Product Liability (does not include mass tort) Slander/Libel/ Defamation Other: MASS TORT Asbestos Tobacco	CONTRACT (do no part of the contract of the co	not include Judgments)  f n: Credit Card n: Other  Dispute:	CIVIL APPEAD Administrative A Board-of As Board-of Ele Dept. of Tra Statutory A Zoning Bean Other	Agencies sessments settions   insportation opeal: Officer
В	Toxic Tort - DES Toxic Tort - Implant Toxic Waste Other:  PROFESSIONAL LIABLITY Dental Legal Medical Other Professional:	Ground Rent Landlord/Tens Mortgage Fore	ain/Condemnation	MISCELLANE Common La Declaratory Mandamus Non-Domes Restraining Quo Warrat Replevin Other:	nw/Statutory Arbitration Judgment stic Relations , Order

@COPY

IEREBY CERTIFY THAT HE WITHIN IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

MESHKOV & BRESLIN Adam D. Meshkov, Esquire

Attorney I.D. No.: 94856

830 Lehigh Street Easton, PA 18042

(T) 610-438-6300 / (F) 610-438-6304

Attorney for Plaintiff

KRIS CLARKE : COURT OF COMMON PLEAS : NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Plaintiff

VS.

WALGREEN COMPANY

Defendant

CIVIL DIVISION - L滿w 을 흘

м. CVQOS (1883) =

9 PM 1 51

COMMON PLEAS

DIVISION

FON COUNTY, PA

DEFEND

# NOTICE TO PLEAD/NOTICE TO DEFEND

You have been sued in Court. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in the following pages, you must take action within twenty (20) days after this Complaint and Notice are served, by entering a written appearance personally or by attorney and filing in writing with the court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you.

You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you by the court without further notice for any money claimed in the Complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the Plaintiffs. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

Northampton County Bar Association 155 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street Easton, PA 18042 (610)-258-6333 2-19/01

MESHKOV & BRESLIN Adam D. Meshkov, Esquire

Attorney I.D. No.: 94856

830 Lehigh Street Easton, PA 18042

(T) 610-438-6300 / (F) 610-438-6304

SY CEL YA GIRW (THIN IS TO L OND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

ah

Attorney for Plaintiff

KRIS CLARKE,

596 Plymouth St., Apt. 4

Hanover, Pennsylvania 18706

Plaintiff

VS.

WALGREEN COMPANY 2535 William Penn Hwy Palmer Township, PA 18045

Defendant

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

CIVILDIVISION LAW

No.: CESTIVISON LAW
No.: CESTIVISON LAW
No.: CESTIVISON LAW

COMPLAINT-CIVIL ACTION F F

Plaintiff, KRIS CLARKE, by and through his undersigned attorney, hereby brings this Complaint against Defendant, WALGREEN COMPANY and in support hereof avers as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff, KRIS CLARKE is an adult individual and resident of Pennsylvania with a mailing address of 596 Plymouth St., Apt. 4, Hanover, Pennsylvania, 18706.
- 2. Defendant, WALGREEN COMPANY is a registered corporation headquartered at 200 Wilmot Road, Deerfield, Illinois, 60015, which is authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 3. Jurisdiction is proper in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County,
  Pennsylvania, because Defendant operates a store located at 2535 William Penn
  Highway, Palmer Township, PA 18045.

- 4. Venue is proper in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County pursuant to PA. R.C.P. 1006 because Defendant does business within Northampton County.
- 5. From February 2005 until January 7, 2014, Plaintiff worked full time as an Electronics B Technician serving the electronic infrastructure of Defendant's retail stores, including those located in Northampton County.
- 6. During his tenure, Plaintiff primarily worked out of Defendant's Depot 45 located at 3060 Plaza Drive, Suite 104 in Boothwyn, Pennsylvania.
- 7. For the first year of his employment, he worked under the supervision of Depot Manager, Michael Alexandrowitz.
- 8. Upon Mr. Alexandrowtiz's departure, Mr. Jancosko assumed the position of Depot Manager, and he remained the Depot Manager for the duration of Plaintiff's employment until his termination in January 2014.
- 9. During Mr. Jancosko's tenure as Depot Manager, Plaintiff's job required him to serve Walgreen's retail stores throughout Eastern Pennsylvania, including Northampton, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike, Carbon, York, Lebanon, Lancaster, Chester, Berks, Delaware and Philadelphia counties in Pennsylvania, the State of Delaware, and portions of the States of New Jersey and Maryland. Plaintiff worked Monday through Friday and was on-call during the weekend hours as needed.
- 10. Plaintiff was at all times a dedicated employee who received repeated commendations for his service to Defendant.
- 11. On June 21, 2012, Plaintiff was attempting to speak to Depot 45's Administrative Assistant Nancy Brown about a personnel matter when Nancy Brown suddenly silenced

him. She then revealed that a microphone had been placed under her desk by Mr. Jancosko.

- 12. Immediately thereafter, Ms. Brown and Plaintiff moved to another location within the Depot, where she explained to Plaintiff that she had first discovered the listening device months earlier, and that she knew it to have been installed by or at the direction of Mr. Jancosko for the purposes of conducting illegal remote surveillance on Depot employees.
- 13. Mr. Jancosko's illegal placement of the listening device is a felony-three criminal offense punishable by up to seven (7) years in prison and the imposition a fine up to Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) under Pennsylvania's Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act ("WESCA") at 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 5701 et seq.
- 14. Mr. Jancosko's illegal placement of the listening device is also punishable civilly under §5725 of WESCA, pursuant to which an aggrieved party is entitled to damages at a rate of "\$100 a day for each day of violation, or \$1,000, whichever is higher," punitive damages, costs and attorney's fees.
- 15. Further, Mr. Jancosko's illegal placement of the listening device constitutes illegal conduct punishable under the Federal Wiretap Act of 1968.
- 16. Upon learning that Mr. Jancosko had illegally placed the listening device, Plaintiff informed his fellow employees of the same and he took a video tape of the listening device as proof of the violation.
- 17. Prior to this occurrence, Plaintiff had been seeking a transfer to Depot 13, which was closer to his home.

- 18. In June 2012, Plaintiff was reassigned to Depot 13, which he believed, based on reassurances, would be a permanent reassignment.
- 19. Upon his arrival at Depot 13, Plaintiff shared news of the WESCA violation with Depot 13's Manager, James Paul. Mr. Paul instructed Plaintiff not to report the violation further because he believed it would jeopardize the approval of Plaintiff's transfer request.
- 20. In August 2012, Plaintiff received a telephone call from Mr. Jancosko, who informed him that his transfer had been denied, and that he would be reassigned to Depot 45.
- 21. Upon his return to Depot 45, Plaintiff's workload became more onerous than the workloads of other technicians. Plaintiff regularly received multiple assignments in distant locations, requiring long hours of travel, compounding an already long commute.
- 22. Soon after his return to Depot 45, Mr. Jancosko changed Plaintiff's work schedule suddenly and without warning from 10:30am to 7:00pm to 8:00am to 4:30pm.
- 23. This change in Plaintiff's work schedule had a profound effect on his family, requiring his wife to forego her employment to meet their childcare needs.
- 24. Plaintiff, believing the schedule change to have occurred in retaliation for his report of Mr. Jancosko's illegal activity to James Paul of Depot 13, reported Mr. Jancosko's retaliatory conduct to Jancosko's supervisor, Terry Yarborough, who declined to take any action.
- 25. In late November 2012, Plaintiff spoke to a fellow employee, Jim Reed, about Mr. Jancosko's illegal conduct and his subsequent treatment of Plaintiff.

- 26. Mr. Reed advised Plaintiff to report Mr. Jancosko's conduct to Carlos Cordoba with Defendant's Loss Prevention Unit.
- 27. After making contact with Mr. Cordoba and forwarding him a written statement and his videotape of the listening device, Plaintiff did not hear further from Mr. Cordoba.
- 28. Plaintiff subsequently learned that Mr. Cordoba's employment had been terminated.
- 29. In January 2013, Defendant commenced an investigation into the WESCA violation.
- 30. In March 2013, the investigation concluded with a finding that the purpose of the microphone could not be determined.
- 31. Through the Spring and Summer of 2013, Plaintiff regularly and frequently volunteered for weekend on-call duty.
- 32. However, after Plaintiff had assumed several consecutive on-call weekends, Mr. Jancosko suddenly and without warning changed the on-call policy to require the rotation of on-call assignments amongst all technicians resulting in loss of income for Plaintiff.
- 33. Regularly, from his first report of the WESCA violation to his fellow employees forward, Mr. Jancosko treated Plaintiff unfairly and subjected him to undue stress, pressure and humiliation, causing Plaintiff to experience sleeplessness, chest pain, numbness and anxiety.
- 34. Around the time of the change to Defendant's on-call policy, Plaintiff, having developed physical and psychological symptoms arising from Mr. Jancosko's treatment of him, sought the services of a psychologist, who advised him to seek a transfer to a different depot, and to submit a hardship letter to Defendant in support of his request.

- 35. Plaintiff submitted a hardship letter to Defendant, and instead of receiving the transfer to Depot 13 which he had previously been assured of, he was offered a position at a retail store at approximately half his rate of pay, which he was not in the financial position to accept.
- 36. In September 2013, Plaintiff filed a complaint against Mr. Jancosko with Defendant's Employee Relations Department, alleging harassment and unfair treatment. At that time, his work environment was so hostile that it caused him a great deal of stress and anxiety, which he conveyed to management in a forthright manner.
- 37. In December 2013, while his complaint against Mr. Jancosko was pending, Plaintiff wrote to the Director of Information Technology Services for Defendant, Mr. Charles Hughes, to inform him of his mistreatment at the hands of Mr. Jancosko.
- 38. Thereafter, Plaintiff was contacted by a liaison from Defendant's Human Relations Department, who in the course of their discussion asked Plaintiff whether he had ever felt like causing harm to Mr. Jancosko.
- 39. Plaintiff replied in a forthright manner that he may have had such feelings in the past, but that he no longer harbored such feelings.
- 40. On January 7, 2014, Charles Hughes appeared at Depot 45 and forced Plaintiff to tender his resignation against his will, based on the pretense of his admission with regard to his past feelings toward Mr. Jancosko.

# COUNT ONE WRONGFUL TERMINATION/CONSTRUCTIVE DISHCHARGE

41. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference all of the foregoing paragraphs as though fully set forth at length below.

42. Plaintiff was terminated from his employment by Defendant in retaliation and as a direct consequence of his making good faith reports of Defendant's unlawful conduct in contravention of Pennsylvania Common Law.

43. Defendant acted unlawfully and in contravention of express laws and public policies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by subjecting Plaintiff to illegal wiretapping in clear violation of Pennsylvania's Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act ("WESCA") at 18 PA.C.S.A. § 5701 et seq., and by exposing Plaintiff to mistreatment in retaliation for his report of Mr. Jancosko's illegal activity, which ultimately culminated in Defendant willfully forcing Plaintiff to tender his resignation against his will.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court enter an Order against Defendant for damages in excess of \$50,000.00 in the form of lost income (back pay) and lost employment benefits, future income (front pay) and future lost employment benefits, all such actual damages incurred, punitive damages, attorney and witness fees and costs, and all such compensable legal and equitable relief determined to be appropriate by this Honorable Court.

MESHKOV & BRESLIN

Bv:

ADAM D. MESHKOV, ESQUIRE

Attorney for Plaintiff 830 Lehigh Street Easton, PA 18042

(T) 610-438-6300 (F) 610-438-6302

#### VERIFICATION

I, KRIS KEVIN CLARKE, hereby verify and that all facts and statements contained in the foregoing Complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. The language is that of my attorney. The facts have been supplied by me. I understand that the statements made therein are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

KRIS KEVIN CLARKE

Date: 4-1-15

# Walgreens Company Data Terminal Repair Disciplinary Action Record

POSITION: Technician B

EMPLOYEE: Kris Clarke		POSITION:	Technician B
SUPERVISOR: Brian Janco	sko		
SIGNATURE:	alle de e	DATE:	
WITNESS: Kevin Dancey			
SIGNATURE: On pho	one	DATE:	7/18/2008
DATE OF INCIDENT: 07/2	15/2008		
the ticket while machine s	s board on the Inkjet machine for was still not working. Kris ne er any parts needed. As a res to inquire on the status.	alected to follow up w	ith store or depot starr to
DISCIPLINARY ACTION T	AKEN: Verbal Warning		
FUTURE CONSEQUENCES	S: Written warning and possible t	ermination.	
The above disciplinary action to all allegations as well as w	n record was discussed with me a rite any comments I feel appropi	and I have been provided riate on the attached she	I with an opportunity to respond et of this form.
Employee Signature:	Employee refused to sign		-

#### Walgreens Company Data Terminal Repair. Disciplinary Action Record

EMPLOYEE: Kris Clarke	POSITION: Tech B
SUPERVISOR: Brian Jancosko	
SIGNATURE:	DATE:04/30/2010
WITNESS: Steve Irons	
SIGNATURE: via phone	DATE: <u>04/30/2010</u>
WITNESS: Dave Reed	_
SIGNATURE: via phone	DATE: <u>04/30/2010</u>
DATE OF INCIDENT: 04/24/2010	
FACTS: On Saturday, April 24th, Kris was responsible for puschedule has been posted since the beginning of January 2010. The on-call technician was overwhelmed with multiple critical they called Kris and left messages asking him to cover sever technician called me to see if I could get a hold of him. I call messages for him to contact the on-call technician. Kris did a during the weekend. It is not too often that the person provide are contacted it is their responsibility to assist with servicing with in a timely manner.	on two white boards and two calendars in the depot.  I tickets that were too spread out for them to cover.  I tickets. After no response from Kris, the on-call  od Kris' work phone and personal phone leaving  not contact the on-call technician or me at any point  ding back up is brought in to work; however, when they
DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN: Verbal warning	
FUTURE CONSEQUENCES: Written Warning.	
The above disciplinary action record was discussed with me to all allegations as well as write any comments I feel approp	and I have been provided with an opportunity to respond riate on the attached sheet of this form.
Employee Signature: Employee refused to sign	Date: <u>04/30/2010</u>

#### Walgreens Company Data Terminal Repair Disciplinary Action Record

EMPLOYEE: Kris Clarke

POSITION: Technician B

SUPERVISOR: Brian Jancosko	
SIGNATURE:	DATE:
WITNESS: Marvin Boyer (Special Investigator, Northeast	Region)
SIGNATURE:	DATE:
DATE OF INCIDENT: 12/23/2011	
FACTS: Kris incurred company expenses and failed to prothe card through Concur in March of 2011. This has resulte exceed 600 dollars and resulted in the American Express car Concur account and had the Company related expense reim late fees to be paid by Kris. Kris failed to correctly monitor/company issued American Express card. This places Kris in Policy.	d in numerous monthly late charges that have accrued to red being revoked. Depot manager assisted Kris with the bursed. This leaves Kris with 298.00 plus any additional process expenses in Concur where it relates to his
DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN: Final Written Warning	
FUTURE CONSEQUENCES: Kris will be responsible for tools, food, and any other incidentals including gas and go the American Express card must be paid within 30 days of a Manager proof of payment through his American Express veconditions will result in further disciplinary action up to and	hrough Concur for reimbursement. The total balance of eceipt of this disciplinary action and show the Depot veb page. Failure to comply with the above stated
The above disciplinary action record was discussed with me to all allegations as well as write any comments I feel approp	and I have been provided with an opportunity to respond priate on the attached sheet of this form.
Employee Signature:	Date:

## **DISCIPLINARY RECORD**

Kris Clarke	Technician B	Depot 45
Employee Name	Position	Location
Brian Jancosko	Depot Manager	Depot 45
Manager Name	Position	Location
John Mormello	Loss Prevention	Flourtown District
	Manager	172
Management Witness	Position	Location

#### RELATED DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

Level of Discipline	<u>Basis</u>	<u>Date</u>
Final Written warning	Failed to properly handle his	12/23/2011
	administrative function of	
	reimbursing his American	
	Express Card through Concur	and the same of th
Verbal Warning	Refusal to handle his backup	04/30/2010
<del></del>	on call responsibilities.	
Written warning	Called out for his on call	8/18/08
_	responsibilities for the	
	weekend	

#### DISCIPLINE BEING ISSUED

Level of Discipline:	Written Warning
Basis for Discipline:	Refusal to take mandatory training after multiple attempts

Explanation of the reason for the discipline:

As you are aware, you are expected to maintain an acceptable level of work performance at this location. Unfortunately, there have been several recent instances of sub-standard work performance where you failed to adhere to the expectations of your position. For example:

- On 11/22/2013 you were assigned a training and test for CTA phone card solution on 11/26 via email.
- As of 11/26/2013 you had not attended the training nor provided any reason as to why
  you could not.
- On 12/3/2013 you were sent another email about taking the test on 12/4.
- On 12/4/2013 you were told to take the test prior to leaving the depot and acknowledged it; however you left without taking it and without notifying me of any reason why you could not do so.
- On 12/5/2013 you were given time in the morning to take the test and did not. Another
  email was sent to you on 12/5/2013 informing you to take the test prior to leaving for

The second second

, <b>v</b> a	Optional Employee Response, to Discipline:  10 the State to A. T. T. Vews do Not Replement of the Source of North Carlo and Experience of Unitariness unetrical and in york of Denaulor at the number of Common to Commo	n(4kd)
	I did not take the test until	osk ty
In	Signing theis document I am acknowly statement but not the disciplinary action of the disciplinary	iorukelyij 26.5
	EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE Kis L. Clarko DATE 12/17/13	

your tickets. You left the depot shortly after 8 am and did not take the test or provide any information as to reasons why you could not do so.

It is imperative that all of our technicians complete required training so we can provide appropriate support to our customers. Your unwillingness to do so and blatant disregard of my requests is unacceptable.

As a result of your recent performance, you are being issued a written warning. Immediate, consistent, and sustained improvement in your work performance is expected. Please be advised that failure to show improvement such as failure to complete assigned tasks in a timely manner, or inability to perform essential tasks, may result in additional disciplinary action up to and including termination. I trust that you will make the changes necessary to improve your performance.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF DISCIPLINE AND WALGREENS' POLICY AGAINST RETALIATION

I have been provided with the information contained in this Disciplinary Record and allowed an opportunity to respond verbally or in writing. I understand that further misconduct will result in more severe discipline, up to and including termination.

I am aware of the policy against retaliation and I agree not to retaliate against any employee or customer who provided information relating to this discipline. I understand that any act of retaliation could result in immediate termination.

Signature indicates having read and understood the above disciplinary record and acknowledgement; it does not necessarily imply agreement.

The information in this disciplinary record, including the consequences for any further
misconduct or retaliation against anyone involved in this discipline, was provided to the
employee identified above on the date indicated. The employee was encouraged to ask questions
to ensure he or she understood the allegations and the consequences of future misconduct and
was given the opportunity to respond to the allegations contained herein at that time.
MANAGER FRIAN JANCOSEC

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE implayed Zefosed to 5.30 DATE 12/17/13

SIGNATURE DATE 12/17/13

MANAGEMENT WITNESS JOHN MORME 40 DLPM DISTRICT 172

SIGNATURE DATE 12/17/13

# EXHIBIT B

Sara A. Begley (Attorney I.D. No. 49120) Anne Rollins (Attorney I.D. No. 314484) **REED SMITH LLP** Three Logan Square, Suite 3100 1717 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-7301 Telephone No. (215) 851-8100 Attorney for Defendant Walgreen Co.

KRIS CLARKE,

Plaintiff,

٧.

No. CV2015-6633

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

WALGREEN CO.,

Defendant

## NOTIFICATION OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

#### TO THE PROTHONOTARY:

Please be advised that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446, you are hereby notified that on October 6, 2015, a Notice of Removal of this Action, which was first filed in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, was filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. A certified copy of the Notice of Removal is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Dated: October 6, 2015

Sara A. Begley Attorney I.D. 49120

Anne Rollins

Attorney I.D. 314484

REED SMITH LLP

Three Logan Square 1717 Arch Street, Suite 3100 Philadelphia, PA 19103-7301

215-851-8100

Attorneys for Defendant Walgreen Co.

# EXHIBIT C

opy B—To Be Filed Wit EDERAL Tax Return.	y B—To Be Filed With Employee's		Copy 2—To Be Filed With City, or Local Income Tax	Return.	2011 OMB No 1545-0008			
Employee's social security number		2 Federal riconta lex withhold	a Employee's social security rumbor	1 Wages, lips, clher comp 54442.71	2 Federal income lax withheld 9209,71			
REDACTED	54442.71 3 Social security wages	9209.71 4 Social security tex withheld	REDACTED	3 Social security wages	4 Social security lax withheld			
implayer ID number (EIN)	55066.83	2312.81	in Employer ID number (IEIN) 55066.83		2312.81 B Medicare tax withhold			
361924025	5 Medicare wages and tipa 55066.83	6 Medicare tax withheld 798.47	361924025	55066.83	798.47			
imployer's name, address, and Z	IP code		c limployer's name, address, and ZIF	code				
WALGREEN CO./ILL. AGENT FOR: WALGRE 200 WILMOT ROAD DEERFIELD, IL 60015	EN EASTERN CO. INC.	03-39-0111	WALGREEN CO./ILL. AGENT FOR: WALGREE 200 WILMOT ROAD DEERFIELD, IL 60015 d Control number	EN EASTERN CO. INC.	03-39-011			
Employee's name, address and 2	/IP roda		e Employee's name, address and ZII	ocode ocode				
KRIS K CLARKE REDACTED	ii Gali		KRIS K CLARKE REDACTED					
Social security lips	8 Allocated tips	9	7 Social security tips	8 Allocated tips	9			
Dependent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans	12a Code Sea Inst. for box 12 D 624.12	10 Dependent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans	12a Code See Inst. for box 12 D 624.12			
Statutory employee  14 Other	<u> </u>	12b Code	13 Statutory employee 14 Other	1,	12b Gode			
Retirement plan		C 3.75	Retirement plan		12c Code 3.75			
X			X Third-party sick pay		12d Code			
:hird-party sick pay		12d Code	rnirg-party sick pay	<u></u>	<u> </u>			
2A 90809699	55063.08	1690,44	PA 90809699	55063.08	3 1690.44			
State Employer's state I D no	16 State wages, lips, etc.	17 State income tax	15 State Employer's state I.D. no	16 State wages, lips, etc.	17 State income tax			
Local wages, tips, etc 19 Local income tax 52.00		20 Locality name UPCHICHES	18 Local wages, lips, etc.	52.00	UPCHICHES			
orm W-2 Wage and Tax State not its information is being furnished by C—For EMPLOYEE	l to the Informat Revenue Service	Dopt of the Treasury—IRS	Form W-2 Wage and Tex Statemen  Copy 2—To Be Filed With	n Employee's State,	2011 OMB No			
ee Notice to Employee	on the back of Copy B.	2011 OM8 No 1545-0008	City, or Local Income Tax a Employee's social security number	k Return.	1545-0008 2 Federal income lax withheld			
Employee's social socurity numb	54442.71	9209.71	REDACTED	54442.71 3 Social security wages	9209.71 4 Social security tax withheld			
	3 Social security wages 55066.83	4 Social security lex withheld 2312.81	b Employer ID number (EIN)	55066.83	2312.81			
Employer ID number (EIN) 361924025	5 Medicare wages and tips	6 Medicare lax withheld	361924025	5 Medicare weges and tips 55066,83	6 Medicare lax withheld 798.47			
imployer's name, address, and a	55066.83	798.47 55066.83 79						
WALGREEN CO./ILL. AGENT FOR: WALGRE 200 WILMOT ROAD DEERFIELD, IL 60015 Jonkal number Imployee's name, address and it	EEN EASTERN CO. INC.	. 03-39-0111	WALGREEN CO /ILL	EN EASTERN CO. INC.	03-39-01			
KRIS K CLARKE REDACTED			REDACTED		nonganist i v namma "hoan sa "musakanda katu akhisishani tah si			
Pocial security tips	8 Allocated tips	9	7 Social socurity tips	8 Allocated tips	a			
Dependent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans	12a Code See Inst for box 12 D 624.12	10 Dependent care bornelis	(1 Nonqualified plans	12a Code See Inst. for box 13 D 624.12			
Statulary employee   14 Other		12b Code	13 Statutory employee 14 Other	a region of the second	12b Code C 3.75			
Retirement plan		C 3.75	Retirement plan		12c Code			
Y Pard-party such pay		12d Code	X Third-party sick pay	n ngaphlagda "gapang sa kumpung n kikinapinan pila kata kumpung nikinapinan pila kata kata kata kata kata kata	12d Code			
A 90809699	55063.0	3 1690.44	PA 90809699	55063.0	1690 44			
State Employer's state I D no	16 State wages, tips, atc	17 State Income tax	15 State Employer's state I.D no	16 State wages, lips, etc.	17 State Income tex			
Local wages, tips, ste	19 Local income tax 52.00	20 Locality name UPCHICHES	18 Lucial wages, tips, ¢tc.	52.00	UPCHICHES			

Don't of the Treseres 109

opy B-To Be Filed With	Employee's	2012	OMB No.	Copy 2—To Be Filed With	Employee's State,	2012	OMB No 1545-0008
EDERAL Tax Return.  Employee's social security runnbei	I		1545-0008 ome tax withheld	City, or Local income Tax a Employee's social security number	1 Wages, tips, other comp.	2 Federal Inc	bloddiw xal emo
REDACTED	53580.32		8885.03	REDACTED	53580.32	12.60	8885.03
	3 Social security wages 54690.76	4 Social secu	rity tax withhold 2297.01	b Employer ID number (EIN) 3 Social security wages 54690.76		A Social Fect.	cily tax withheld 2297.01
Employer ID number (EIN) 361924025	5 Medicare wages and tips	6 Medicare to	ıx wilhheld	361924025	5 Medicare wages and tips	6 Medicare to	
	54690.76		793.02	c Employer's name, address, and Zi	54690.76		793.02
implayer's name, address, and ZIF	ode .			C Employer & Hamo, address, and an	1 0000		
WALGREEN CO./ILL AGENT FOR: WALGREE 200 WILMOT ROAD DEERFIELD, IL 60015	EN EASTERN CO. INC.		03-39-0111	WALGREEN CO./ILL. AGENT FOR: WALGREI 200 WILMOT ROAD DEERFIELD, IL 60015	EN EASTERN CO. INC.	<u> </u>	03-39-011
Sprift or Limitabili							
Employee's name, address and ZIF	code			e Employae's name, address and Zi	P code		
KRIS K CLARKE REDACTED				KRIS K CLARKE REDACTED			
BOOM RECEIVED	8 Allocated lips	9		7 Social security tips	8 Allocated tips	g	
Dependent care barrefits	11 Nonquelified plans		e Inst. for box 12	10 Dependent care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans		e Inst for box 12
		C 12b Code	10.15	13 Statutory employee 14 Other	1	12b Code	10.15
Statutory employee 14 Other UPCHICH	HES Tax 22.00	126 C009	1110.44		HES Tax 22.00	D	1110.44
Retirement plan SUI		12c Code	F 400 70	Relirement plan SUI	43.74	12c Code DD	5483.76
Third-party sick pay		DD 12d Code	5483.76	Third-perty sick pay		12d Code	
Three-party dick pay						J	·
A 90809699	54680.61		1678.70	PA 90809699	54680.6	1	1678.70
State Employer's state I D no.	16 State wages, tips, etc.		Income tax	15 State Employer's state I.D. no.	16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State	income tax
Local wages, tips, etc	19 Local income tax	20 Localdy n	ame CHICHE	18 Local wages, lips, etc	19 LOCAL III COMO CAX		CHICHE
 opy C-For EMPLOYEE	S RECORDS	2012	DMB No	Copy 2—To Be Filed Wit	h Employee's State,	2012	OMB No 1545-0008
ee Notice to Employee	on the back of Copy B.)		1545-0008 come tax withhald	City, or Local Income Ta a Employee's social security numb	er 1 Wages, tips, other comp.	2 Federal V	come tax will theid
	53580.32		8885.03	REDACTED	53580.32 3 Social security wages	4 Social sec	8885.03 curity tax withheld
REDACTED	3 Social security wages 54690.76	4 Social sec	urity tax withheld 2297.01	o Employer ID number (EIN)	54690.76	7 000121 300	2297.01
Imployer ID number (EIN) 361924025	5 Medicare wages and tips	6 Medicare t	lax withheld	361924025	5 Medicare wages and lips 54690.76	6 Medicare	tax withheld 793.02
	54690.76	<u> </u>	793.02	c Employer's name, address, and			100.02
imployer's name, address, and Zi WALGREEN CO./ILL. AGENT FOR: WALGREI 200 WILMOT ROAD DEERFIELD, IL 60015			03-39-0111	MALGREEN CO /II I	EEN EASTERN CO. INC.		03-39-011
Solsket umper							
Employee's name, address and 21	P code		-	e Employee's name, address and	ZIP COGG		
KRIS K CLARKE REDACTED				KRIS K CLARKE REDACTED			
Social security tips	B Allocated lips	9		7 Social security lips	6 Allocated tips	9	
Dependant care benefits	11 Nonqualified plans		ee inst. for box 12	10 Dependent care bonefits	11 Nonqualified plans	12a Code S	See Inst for box 12 10.15
Stalutory employee 14 Other		C 12b Code	10.15	13 Statutory amployee 14 Other	CHES Tax 22.00	12b Code	1110 44
UPCHIC	HES Tax 22.00	12c Ccqs	1110.44	Retirement plan SUI	CHES Tax 22.00 43.74		
Retirement plan SUI	43.74	DD	5483.76	X	.2.,	DD	5483.76
hird-party sick pay		12d Code		Third-party sick pay		12d Code	
turnishing over twis		ļ					<u> </u>
	54680 6	1	1678.70	PA 90809699	54680.	61	
PA 90809699 State Employer's state t D no	54680.6 (6 State wagos, tips, atc	1	1678.70 income tax	PA 90809699 15 State Employer's state I.D. no. 16 Local wages, tips, etc			1678.70

	a Employee's social sec			Conv BTo	Re Filed With	Employ	/ee's FF	DERAL Tax Retu	urn.		
	REDACTE	ED	OMB No. 1545-00	16 COPY B-10	De Luga Mill	pio)	<del></del>				
b Employer Identification number	(EIN)			1 Wages, tips, of	ther compensation		2 Federal				
361924025				1	44934.65	~~~~			4165.30		
c Employer's name, address, and	ZIP code			3 Social security	3 Social security wages			ecurity lax withheld			
WALGREEN CO /ILL. AGENT FOR: WALGRE	EEN EACTEDN CO	I INIO			44934.65				2785.95		
200 WILMOT ROAD	EN EASTERN CO	. INC.		5 Medicare wage	5 Medicare wages and tips			6 Medicare (ex withhold			
DEERFIELD, IL 60015					44934.65				651.55		
				7 Social socurity	tips		6 Allocate	d tips			
			03-39-69	57							
d Control number				9 87			10 Dependent care benefits				
e Employee's first name and Initia	l Last name		St	ff 11 Nonqualified p	11 Nonqualified plans			12a See instructions for box 12			
KRIS K CLARKE								C 8.86			
REDACTED				13 Statutory employee	Retrement Third-pany plan slok pay		12b	1			
							f DD	1	8391.68		
				14 Other SUI		31.45	12c				
								12d			
f Employee's address and ZIP co-	do						1 d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d				
	····				<del></del>			inconcantications			
15 State Employer's state ID nun	nber	16 State wages, tips,	1	income tax	18 Local wages,		19 60	cal Income tex	20 Locality name		
PA 90809699		44925.7	9	1379.25	449	25.79		772.80	. 10		
			-					50.00			
					<u> </u>			52.00			
Form <b>W-2</b> Wage and This information is being formation	d Tax Statement urnished to the Inte	rnal Revenue \$	Service.	2013			Departmer	nt of the Treasury—Int	emai Kevenue Servici		
				paranessis distribute					<del></del>		
	a Employee's social sec	curity number		Copy C-Fo	r EMPLOYEE	'S RECC	RDS				
REDACTED OMB No. 1545-01008					(See Notice to Employee on the back of Copy B.)						
b Employer Identification number (	b Employer Identification number (EIN)						2 Federal income tex withheld				
361924025							4165.30				
c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code					3 Social security wages			4 Social security tax withhold			
WALGREEN CO./ILL.					44934.65			2785.95			
AGENT FOR: WALGRE	AGENT FOR: WALGREEN EASTERN CO. INC.						6 Medicare lax withheld				

	a Employee's soc	al security number			Copy CFor EMPLOYEE'S RECORDS						
	REDAC	TED	OMB No 18	545-0008	(See Notice t	o Employ	ee on the ba	ick of Copy B.)			
b Employer Identi	fication number (EIN)				1 Wages, tips, ott	ner compense	lion	2 Fedora	income tax withheld		
361924025	44934.65			4165.30							
c Employer's nam	e, address, and ZIP code				3 Social security	wages		4 Social security tax withhold			
WALGREE	N CO./ILL.				44934.65			2785.95			
AGENT FO	R: WALGREEN EASTERN	I CO. INC.			5 Modicare wages and tips 6 Medicare tax withheld						
DEERFIEL					44934.65			651.55			
					7 Social security	tips		8 Allocate	ed tips		
			03-3	39-6957							
d Control number				<del></del>	0 2/12/2			10 Depen	dent care benefits		
e Employee's first	name and Initial Last name			Suff	11 Nonqualified plans			12a See Instructions for box 12			
KRIS K CL					1			C		8.86	
REDAC	TED				13 Sinistery employes	Repression plan	Titto-party sick pay	12b	t		
								DD	18	3391.68	
					14 Olher SUI		31.45	12c	1		
							Ī	12d		***************************************	
# Employee's add	ess and ZIP code						ļ	•			
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		<del></del>	<del></del>	L				almantatoria, existendo	<del></del>	
15 Stale Employ	er's state ID number	16 State wages, tips,	elc 1	17 State Inc			iges, lips, elc	19 Lo	cal income tax	20 Locality name	
PA 9080	9699	44925.79	9		1379.25		44925.79	_	772.80	10	
						1				1	
1 1		1	ļ			į .		ı	52.00	į.	

Form W-2 Wage and Tax Statement

2013

Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Service

This information is being furnished to the Internal Revenue Service. If you are required to file a tax return, a negligence penalty or other sanction may be imposed on you if this income is taxable and you fall to report it.